



## STUDENT REGISTRATION - EXTENDED DEADLINE

Visit us online or request a paper copy today!

The NorCal STEM Education Foundation has a Holiday treat - we've extended the registration deadline for all student projects. The experimentation review deadline for your project for the Sacramento Regional STEM Fair has been moved all the way until January 16, 2017! **Don't worry - this still doesn't mean you have to perform your experiment yet - we simply need to know WHAT you plan to do!**

With your registration, the Scientific Review Committee (SRC) will review and approve your project to ensure safety standards are met. After the SRC approves your project, you will receive an email notifying you that you can go ahead and get started on actually carrying out your experiments! This way, you can rest assured that you are not wasting time on performing aspects of a project that can be dangerous to you or those around you!

Remember: Project boards do NOT need to be completed until the actual Fair day, March 25, 2017.

Please feel free to contact us at [sacSTEMfair@sacSTEMfair.org](mailto:sacSTEMfair@sacSTEMfair.org) or at (916) 441-3150 with any questions or concerns about the registration deadlines or about the process.

[CLICK HERE](#) to register for the **COMPETITIVE DIVISION**.  
OR  
[CLICK HERE](#) to register for the **SHOWCASE DIVISION**.

## TEACHERS: WE HAVE RESOURCES!

Teachers! Now is the time for you to submit your questions and requests STEM presentation for your class!

There are different kinds of presentations that you can request. For example, you can request a STEM Speaker - this kind of presentation brings a in a scientist, engineer or even a tech expert to speak to your students about their education and career pathway that lead them to becoming a STEM professional.

Another type of presentation that the Foundation offers is focused on getting your students excited about the Fair. During these STEM Fair presentations, a staff member will attend your class or after school program to help with student registration for the Sacramento Regional STEM Fair. We can review what the project board should look like and what the day of the Fair will entail.

Finally, a hybrid presentation can be requested, where a STEM professional gives a short presentation and a Foundation staff member also attends to answer any questions about student registration or the day of the Fair.

We have EXTENDED the registration deadline UNTIL JANUARY 16 so we hope your class will join us for the 2017 Fair!

Please use our website - it has been organized with you in mind! Some resources found on our website are encapsulated in the article for your convenience.

### HOW TO PUT TOGETHER YOUR BOARD

A sample sheet explaining how to put together a Project Board online

### PROJECT INFORMATION

Links with information specifically on Engineering and Science projects are online

### ROAD MAP TO REGISTRATION

Our new outline of what information you need to complete registration. View it before you start!

### PAPER REGISTRATION

Paper registration is available upon request. While you are assisting your students register, it is helpful to have a hard copy for yourself.

### DEADLINES

If you or your students are struggling with deadlines, please DO NOT be discouraged. Send us a note, we would be happy to discuss options.

Email us at [sacSTEMfair@sacSTEMfair.org](mailto:sacSTEMfair@sacSTEMfair.org), or call (916) 441-3150.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**November 28** - Registration deadline EXTENDED for all!  
**ALL December** - Contact the NorCal STEM Education Foundation for in-class presentations and help with registration!

**January 16, 2017** - NEW DEADLINE FOR STUDENT REGISTRATION

**March 24, 2017** - Project Drop Off and Set up day

**March 25, 2017** - Sacramento Regional STEM Fair and College & Career Expo at American River College

## DONATE TO THE FOUNDATION WHILE SHOPPING FOR GROCERIES!

Do you shop at Raley's, Bel-Air, or Nob Hill? If so, please join the Extra Credit program for the Sacramento Regional Science and Engineering Fair Foundation. [See instructions on how to sign up here](#). It's all online and just takes a few simple clicks to support the Foundation!

## ARE YOU A STATE WORKER LOOKING TO DONATE THROUGH "OUR PROMISE" (formerly CSECC)?

The donation website for "Our Promise" has been taken offline, but state employees can still make their donations the old-fashioned way! The Sacramento Regional Science & Engineering Fair Foundation (dba NorCal STEM Education Foundation) hopes you will elect to donate to our organization. We've even prepared the form for you with our information to make it simple. Use the Our Promise form with our information [here](#).

## SPONSOR THE FOUNDATION TODAY!

Does your organization support STEM Education? Would you like to be more involved? Then consider becoming a sponsor of the NorCal STEM Education Foundation, today! All sponsorships get featured on our website and in the STEM Fair program, and all the money goes toward increasing student interest in STEM! It's a win-win! If you or someone you know is interested in sponsoring the Foundation, either monetarily or with in-kind goods or services, please

visit our [sponsorship page](#) on the website to learn more.

## SCIENCE SPOTLIGHT

### Vitamin D Doesn't Cure All

Vitamin D has become the "hottest" vitamin at the moment, with proponents of the vitamin touting its "miraculous" ability to reduce the risk of a wide variety of diseases including MS and certain cancers, as well as to help prevent conditions such as insomnia and depression. But it's not necessarily the



## EXHIBITORS!

### Sign up today!

Exhibitors! Want to exhibit at an event that will showcase your company or organization to the area's best and brightest who are already interested in STEM? Then you need to sign up for the College

& Career Expo immediately! The 2017 College & Career Expo will be our biggest and best yet - don't wait, spaces are going fast!

[Reserve an Exhibit Space!](#)

## PIN DESIGN CONTEST OPEN

Do you consider yourself somewhat of an artist? If so, we want YOU to help us design our 2018 STEM Fair pin! Each year, the NorCal STEM Education Foundation provides pins to participants at the Sacramento Regional STEM Fair to commemorate the event. These pins travel with the winners who go on to compete in the Intel International Science & Engineering Fair and are traded among competitors from all over the world! Imagine YOUR design traveling to Europe, Asia, even Australia!

The contestants for the Pin Design Competition will be featured on-site at the 2018 Sacramento Regional STEM Fair and the winner will be named at the Awards Ceremony.

### Rules to Enter:

All designs should be scalable (submitted in EPS format) and visually appealing when reduced to 1 1/2 x 1 1/2 inches. Designs will be displayed in color in two sizes for voting. Designs will be shown in a print area of 4x6 inches alongside a pin preview thumbnail of 1 1/2 x 1 1/2 inches. Pin designs should state "2018" and "Sacramento Regional STEM Fair." The chosen pin is subject to change to reflect the name of the 2018 Fair.

Individual submissions only. Contest is limited to students in grades 5-12 who reside in the NorCal STEM Education Foundation's service area.

To learn more, [visit our website](#).



Past Pin Designs

## THERE IS A "U" IN VOLUNTEER!

Want to get involved with a great organization and a fun-filled event, but just don't know how? Never fear! STEM FAIR is here!

Our 15th Annual Regional STEM Fair is sure to be everything you ever wanted to volunteer for. Help our area students experience the best STEM Fair yet by volunteering early!

We need volunteers in many different areas and can use anyone - from all ages!

We welcome all enthusiastic volunteers who believe that STEM learning is not only an enjoyable experience, but also necessary for today's youth.

We've made it simple - you can sign up online to be a volunteer and only commit to hours that work for you and your schedule.

We are supported by our dedicated volunteers. They provide a broad source of expertise, talent, and manpower for our Fair. Volunteers can assist with set up, assembly, registration, crowd control, food services, awards, tear down and much more. Some volunteer categories can utilize middle and high school volunteers - Fair Staff are happy to sign required community service sheets.

### READY TO SIGN UP?

Sign up online: [#general volunteer](#) . If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact us at [sacSTEMfair@sacSTEMfair.org](mailto:sacSTEMfair@sacSTEMfair.org) .

Sign up online:



## The Regional STEM Mentoring Program

Great minds follow great mentors! The Regional STEM Mentoring (RSM) program provides a foundation for students to build hands-on skills, receive advice, and grow into independent individuals ready to jump-start their careers. The RSM program dedicates itself to opening the minds of students to pursue greater STEM careers with a passion for what they want to do. Students who go through the program emerge better equipped for the STEM workforce and their future careers! Please visit our website for more information and to sign up for this amazing experience:

[Learn about the Mentoring Program!](#)

"cure-all" that it's claimed to be. According to a recent study conducted at Fred Hutch, women who received too much of the vitamin experienced just as much, if not worse sleep quality than those who lacked enough vitamin D to begin with. Want to learn more about their research? Check it out here: [#hotvitamins](#).

### Sahara Desert was Tropical?

As recently as 6,000 years ago, the Sahara Desert, known today as the 3.6 million square mile desert that covers most of North Africa, was tropical. Shifts in the world's weather patterns changed the tropical region to a dry, arid desert. Researchers now are trying to determine how this happened, and their findings could lead to better rainfall predictions. The researchers are using computer models to figure out rainfall patterns from thousands of years ago and to project them into the future. Want to learn more about their research? Click here: [#tropicaldesert](#) .

## SCHOLARSHIPS

### Women in Technology Scholarship - \$2,500

Visionary Integration Professionals has announced the opening of the 9th annual Women in Technology Scholarship which offers multiple \$2,500 scholarships to women pursuing a career in computer science, information tech, management information systems, computer engineering or another related field. Students must be accepted to or enrolled at a 2 or 4 year university in the United States. Applications are due March 7, 2016. Click here for more details: [#WITS2016](#).

### American Chemical Society Scholars Program - up to \$5,000

ACS awards renewable scholarships to underrepresented minority students who want to enter the fields of chemistry or chemistry-related fields. Awards of up to \$5,000 are given to qualified students. African American, Hispanic, or American Indian high school seniors or college freshman, sophomores, or juniors pursuing a college degree in the chemical sciences or chemical technology are eligible to apply. Find out more here: [#ACSScholars](#).

## OTHER COMPETITIONS

### NSTA Bright Schools Competition

Students in grades 6-8 are asked to explore through scientific inquiry or engineering design concepts the correlation between light and sleep. Competition registration is now open and the deadline to register is February 6, 2017. Learn more here: [#BrightSchools](#).